Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06996 171805Z

71
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ADP-00 USIA-12 /023 W
---------- 108832
R 171705Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9864

UNCLAS ROME 6996

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: OEXC, IT
SUBJ: FY-1974 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 117508

FOR: CU/WE

1. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIALS HAVE REITERATED DESIRE TO MOVE AHEAD QUICKLY ON THIS YEAR PREFECTURAL CORP PROJECT, FOLLOWING FORMAT ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR TO THAT OF LAST YEAR. THEY PROPOSE THAT FIVE OR SIX YOUNG PREFECTURAL CORP OFFICERS, JOINTLY SELECTED BY MINISTRY AND EMBASSY, ARRIVE IN U.S. OCTOBER 15 AND DEPART OCTOBER 31. (THUS UTILIZING NOVEMBER 1-2 HOLIDAY PERIOD FOR RETURN TO THEIR POSTS OF ASSIGNMENT WITHIN ITALY). ITALIANS WILL PAY INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL COSTS AND IVP GRANTS WILL COVER PER DIEM, DOMESTIC TRAVEL, ETC.

2. MINISTRY HAS SUGGESTED THAT PROJECT FOCUS PRIMARILY UPON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AS SUBJECT WHICH LAST YEAR'S GRATEES FOUND OF CONSIDERABLE PERTINENCY AND VALUE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITALY'S NEWLY INSTITUTED REGIONAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE. IN GENERAL TERMS THEIR INTEREST EXTENDS TO JURIDICAL, BUREAOUCRATIC AND FINANCIAL TIES BETWEEN THE THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT; MORE SPECIFICALLY, THEY WISH TO OBSERVE HOW THREE LEVELS INTER-RELATE IN FIELDS OF (A) EMERGENCY CIVIL DISASTER RELIEF; (B) PRESERVATION OF ECOLOGY, INCLUDING POLLUTION CONTRO AND (C) PRESERVATION OF FINE ARTS, HISTORIC SITES, AND NATURAL BEAUTY AREAS (INCLUDING NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM).
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PAGE 02 ROME 06996 171805Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

3. MINISTRY OFFICIALS WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENTS COMMENTS UPON THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROGRAM GOALS, AND HOPEFULLY ALSO A BRIEF OUTLINE OF PROGRAM AS WE FORESEE IT, BY SEPGEMBER 1, SO AS TO ASSIST THEM IN MAKING INITIAL SELECTION OF PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS.

(NOTE: ITALIAN SUMMER HOLIDAY RULES OUT ANY EARLIER NAMING OF PARTICIPANTS). ALSO FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REASON OF THEIR OWN, MINISTRY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PRECISE ITINERARY AND PROGRAM BEFORE GROUP DEPARTS.VOLPE

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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